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Group Art Unit: Not Assigned Yet

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Muthiah Manoharan

Serial No.: Not Assigned Yet

Filed: Herewith

For:

Examiner: Not Assigned Yet

CARBOHYDRATE OR 2'-MODIFIED OLIGONUCLEOTIDES HAVING

ALTERNATING INTERNUCLEOSIDE LINKAGES

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EL 568090780 US **DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 27, 2001**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Preliminary Amendment

Prior to the examination of the above referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered, without prejudice:

In the specification:

Please replace the section on page 1 having the section heading CROSS REFERENCE TO **RELATED APPLICATIONS** with the following section.

This application is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 09/349,007, filed July 7, 1999, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 09/115,025, filed July 14, 1998, the disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.